



Robert G. Atkins
Interim Agricultural Commissioner/
Director of Weights and Measures

COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

**Department of
Agricultural Commissioner/
Weights and Measures**

Pest Exclusion and Produce Quality
11012 Garfield Avenue
South Gate, California 90280
<http://acwm.co.la.ca.us>

October 12, 2004

The Honorable Board of Supervisors
County of Los Angeles
383 Hall of Administration
500 West Temple Street
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Dear Supervisors:

**APPROVAL OF AGREEMENT #04-0368 WITH THE CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF
FOOD AND AGRICULTURE FOR THE GLASSY-WINGED SHARPSHOOTER AND
PIERCE'S DISEASE CONTROL PROGRAM
(ALL DISTRICTS)(3-VOTES)**

IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT YOUR BOARD:

1. Reappoint the Agricultural Commissioner/Director of Weights and Measures (ACWM) as the lead agent for the County of Los Angeles in the inspection of plant shipments for the control of Pierce's Disease (PD) and its vector, Glassy-winged Sharpshooter (GWSS). This appointment will be presented to the Secretary of the California Department of Food and Agriculture (CDFA).
2. Approve and instruct the Chairman to sign the attached agreement #04-0368 with CDFA to continue the GWSS/PD Control Program effective July 1, 2004 through June 30, 2005.
3. Authorize the ACWM to amend the contract agreement in an amount not to exceed 15% of the original contract.

PURPOSE/JUSTIFICATION OF RECOMMENDED ACTION:

On August 12, 2003, your Board approved Agreement #03-0303 with CDFA authorizing ACWM to provide inspection services of plant shipments related to the GWSS/PD Control Program.

Approval of the recommended actions will enable ACWM to continue its efforts in controlling the spread of Pierce's Disease and its vector, the GWSS within Los Angeles County.

The GWSS/PD Control Program will significantly affect plant growing nurseries, Los Angeles County's number one agricultural industry. The program calls for the inspection of all nursery stock destined for regulating counties. In addition, wine-grape growers in Los Angeles County require inspection certification to move bulk grape shipments to regulating counties.

ACWM has consulted and worked collaboratively with all the shipping nurseries and wine-grape growers to assist in controlling the spread of this pest.

Implementation of Strategic Plan Goals

Awarding this contract meets Los Angeles County's Strategic Plan Goal of Service Excellence. Continuing the GWSS/PD Control Program significantly enhances the ACWM's ability to certify nursery plants and wine-grapes shipped from Los Angeles County. California requires the certification of nursery plants and wine-grapes, and our timely response to shipping requests benefit the county's agricultural industry.

FISCAL IMPACT/FINANCING:

Under this agreement, CDFA will provide funding in the amount of \$1,302,838.40 for work performed by ACWM from July 1, 2004 through June 30, 2005. Therefore, the program will allow for full cost recovery and has no effect on net County cost.

FACTS AND PROVISIONS/LEGAL REQUIREMENTS:

Senate Bill 671 (May 19, 2000) requires that counties infested with Glassy-winged Sharpshooter (GWSS) designate a lead agency/department. This designation will allow the ACWM to recover the costs for the Pierce's Disease Control Program in Los Angeles County from CDFA. SB 671 declared that the plant killing bacterium, Xyella fastidiosa, known as Pierce's Disease, and GWSS present a clear and present danger to California's grape industry, as well as to many other agricultural commodities and plant life. The GWSS/PD Control Program is to be conducted by the local public entity designated by our Board of Supervisors under a CDFA approved GWSS/PD control work plan.

On August 12, 2003, your Board approved Agreement #03-0303 with CDFA authorizing ACWM to recover up to \$1,023,677.77 for the provision of services under the GWSS/PD Control Program.

County Counsel has approved the contract as to form.

IMPACT OF CURRENT SERVICES (OR PROJECTS):

As the lead agency, ACWM will conduct a public information program to alert nurseries and grape growers of shipping and treatment regulations, as well as perform inspections and certification of plant and grape shipments. Without inspection, treatment, and certification, nursery and bulk grape growers would be prohibited from shipping any GWSS host material to regulating counties, resulting in an estimated loss of \$25 million to the county's plant producing nurseries and grape growers.

CONCLUSION:

When approved, please return to this Department the five (5) signed copies along with the minute order authorizing the Chair to sign. The Department will forward to the CDFA Contracts Office.

Respectfully submitted,

Robert G. Atkins
Interim Agricultural Commissioner/
Director of Weights and Measures

Attachments
RGA:PJD:WD::jm

c: Chief Administrative Officer
Executive Officer
County Counsel